

REMARKS

FORMAL MATTERS:

Claims 16, 17 and 27-29 were examined. Claims 1-15 and 18-26 were previously canceled. Claims 16 and 17 were rejected and claims 27-29 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this indication of allowance.

By this Amendment claims 16, 28 and 29 are amended and claim 27 is canceled without prejudice. Claim 16 was amended to incorporate the limitations of canceled claim 27, and claims 28 and 29 were amended to change their dependency from cancelled claim 27 to amended claim 16. Support for these amendments is found throughout the specification and in the originally filed claims.

REJECTIONS UNDER §102

Claims 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Stevens et al. (U.S.P.N. 5,797,960).

As claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 27 and as claim 17 has been canceled, this rejection has been made moot.

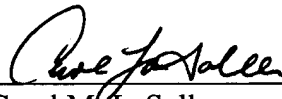
All of the claims are believed to be in a condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number UOMB-001.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 8/2/04

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